

## Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 NEAE-00 SSO-00

OMB-01 /129 W

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P 121725Z JUN 74

FM USINT DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 828

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 050

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1150

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. SUMMARY: SYRIAN PRESS AND RADIO CARRYING SOMEWHAT INCREASED NEWS COVERAGE AS PRESIDENT NIXON'S MIDEAST VISIT ACTUALLY BEGIN. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO SYRIAN EDITORIAL COMMENT TODAY, CAIRO RADIO'S LIVE ACCOUNT OF CAIRO WELCOME COULD BE HEARD LOCALLY AND PRESUMABLY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO RAPIDLY GROWING SYRIAN ANTICIPATION OF VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. BOTH SYRIAN DAILIES FRONTPAGE BELOW FOLD NEWS AGENCY ACCOUNTS OF BEGINNING OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S TRIP. AL-BAATH STORY, DATELINED CAIRO, LISTS MIDEAST COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED AND REPORTS ZIEGLER STATEMENTS CONCERNING PLANS FOR PRESIDENT TO STOP IN WEST EUROPE PRIOR TO MOSCOW CONFERENCE. LENGTHY AL-THAWRA REPORT, DATELINED SALZBURG, INCLUDES ABOVE AND ALSO REPORTS CHANCELLOR KREISKEY'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AND LATTER'S EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT PRESENT TRIP WILL CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE IN MIDEAST AND ENTIRE WORLD.

3. AL-THAWRA ALSO INCLUDES AFP BEIRUT REPORT STATING "ARAB OBSERVERS" ANTICIPATING PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL IN MIDEAST BUT WONDER ABOUT AMERICA'S INTENTIONS AND ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH STATEMENT: "ARAB OBSERVERS NOTE THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL DISCOVER NEW ATTITUDE IN REGION AS DIRECT RESULT OF OCTOBER WAR, WHICH MADE ARABS UNDERSTAND BOTH THEIR POWERS AND THEIR POTENTIALITIES."

4. BOTH PAPERS CARRY ON PAGE TWO BRIEF ACCOUNT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SALZBURG PRESS CONFERENCE UNDER HEADING "THREAT TO RESIGN."

5. SYRIAN RADIO CARRYING BRIEF ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT'S CAIRO ARRIVAL IN NEWSCASTS. IN ADDITION, SYRIAN LISTENERS WERE ABLE TO HEAR CAIRO RADIO'S LENGTHY LIVE BROADCAST AS MOTORCADE ENTERED CITY, WHICH STRESSED HUGE CROWDS ALONG ROUTE.

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YM COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SYRIANS CONSIDERABLY MORE RESERVED THAN EGYPTIANS, NEVERTHELESS, ACCOUNTS OF HUGE SIZE OF CAIRO WELCOMING CROWDS ARE BOUND TO HEIGHTEN INTEREST HERE. SCOTES

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 OCT 2002  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SY, (NIXON, RICHARD M)  
**To:** STATE USIA  
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